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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 20 (b)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

International cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the Semipalatinsk nuclear testing ground, inherited by Kazakhstan and closed in 1991, has become a matter of serious concern for the people and Government of Kazakhstan with regard to its consequences for the lives and health of the people, especially children, as well as for the environment of the region,

Conscious that the international community should pay due attention to the issue of the human, ecological and socio-economic dimensions of the situation in the Semipalatinsk region,

Recognizing the need to coordinate national and international efforts aimed at the rehabilitation of the health of the affected population and the environment in this region,

Bearing in mind the need for know-how in minimizing and mitigating radiological, health, socio-economic, psychological and environmental problems in the Semipalatinsk region,

Recalling the Almaty Declaration[1] of the Heads of the Central Asian States of 28 February 1997, proclaiming 1998 the Year of Environmental Protection in the region of Central Asia,

1. Stresses the need for greater attention and extra efforts with regard to the Semipalatinsk region and its population;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with relevant Governments, organizations and agencies, to coordinate a study of the humanitarian situation in the Semipalatinsk region in order to assist the Government of Kazakhstan in the formulation of a recommended overall action plan to address the humanitarian, ecological and economic problems and needs of the region;

3. Calls upon the international community to provide assistance in the formulation and implementation of special programmes and projects of treatment and care for the affected population in the Semipalatinsk region;

4. Invites all States, relevant multilateral financial organizations and other entities of the international community, including non-governmental organizations, to share their knowledge and experience in order to contribute to the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region;

5. Calls upon all Member States, relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system, including the funds and programmes, to participate in the rehabilitation of the health of the affected population and the ecosystem of the Semipalatinsk region;

6. Decides to consider at its fifty-third session the humanitarian situation in the Semipalatinsk region under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

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[1] A/52/112, annex.